

Poplar Heights Recreation Association Board of Directors Meeting

Date: July 10, 2018
Time: 7:30 PM
Location: Far Upper Deck Area, Poplar Heights

Roll Call: (X indicates those present)

X Shari Kane, President
X Barb Mayer, Vice President
X Mark Weitz, Treasurer
X Dan O'Grady, Secretary
X Erik Autor
X Chris Cook
X Matt Borman
X John Grossmann
My Hoa Kaas
X Shawn Kline
X Mike Nicholson
Rob Reynolds
X Cynthia Wilson, Registrar

Call to Order

A quorum being present, the President called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM. About a dozen PHRA members, some arriving late, were in attendance to observe the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Erik, seconded by John, the board unanimously approved the draft Minutes for the Board Meeting for June 5.

Formation of Special Committee on CORE Bubble Proposal

Shari asked the shareholder attendees if they had any comments before the board would go into Executive Session to discuss the specifics on how to form the committee. Cary Metzler, who has a background as an insurance actuary, gave a brief presentation warning that, in his opinion, CORE's liability insurance coverage is currently insufficient. He noted that it only covers non-members when Alex Shek is teaching, playing or officiating. In all other instances, liability would fall to PHRA. He urged the club to increase its general liability coverage.

Before the board went into Executive Session, some of the shareholders seeking to be named to the Special Committee stood up and introduced themselves.

Executive Session

Following a brief discussion on whether to permit the spouses of board members to participate in the Special Committee, a majority of the board decided that this should be allowed. Dan proposed a motion that the Special Committee be composed of all shareholders who have applied. Several board members immediately objected, arguing that the board had previously agreed that the Special Committee would number only five shareholders and two board members, and that this already had been announced to the membership. Other board members countered that the board is entitled to change its mind, that we should welcome the apparent interest in this issue, and that it would be better to be inclusive. The overall number of Special Committee members should not be cumbersome, and should even make it easier to have a quorum. Matt seconded Dan's motion, and it was approved 6-5. The board agreed that Shari and John would serve as the committee's board members, and that the committee at its first meeting could select a chairperson.

The Special Committee members are:

Jonathan Lang
Laurie Oberembt
Keith Callahan
Cary Metzler
Alison Shipman
Kevin Coleman
Dorothy Lange
Pamela Nicholson
Megan Pawlowski
Jane Fitzgibbons
Janice Martin
Dave Yensen

Fecal Contamination in the Pool

At the request of a shareholder in attendance, Shari briefed the gathering on the recent closure of the pool due to "fecal matter sabotage." She noted that the word "sabotage" had come from the lifeguards, perhaps to be sarcastic. It had actually been two incidents of fecal matter discovered in the pool, one in the deep end. She added that while infants in swim diapers without plastic pants may have been at fault, it could also have come from an adult. Shari lamented that this season we have seen two such pool closures, both on Sunday evenings. She has urged the guards to be more proactive about checking to see if infants are wearing plastic pants in addition to swim diapers. It was noted that it is practically impossible to tell if a baby is wearing the proper rubber pants once their bathing suit is on.

A shareholder urged that violators be fined. The board explained that the rules now mandate such a fine, but that enforcement is difficult. Another shareholder made a strong

appeal that this be viewed as a serious health hazard issue, and that the board consider other measures. Shari asked all those in attendance to please offer the board any and all recommendations on how to address this issue. The board reminded the gathering that the ban on infants in the main pool has only been suspended for this season, during which the club is monitoring general compliance with the rule on plastic pants. One board member suggested that we consider hiring an adult to be on duty to monitor proper diaper and rubber pants usage in the main pool.

Treasurer's Report

Mark (Treasurer) indicated that we are on track for our budgeted member dues, but we have one member who has not paid dues yet.

Last year we had 303 members who paid regular dues, versus 302 right now for 2017. (The remaining members are inactive.)

There were three share transfers plus 17 shares turned in to PHRA in 2018. All but four shares have been resold and paid for in full. Three are paying on installment plans and the fourth agreed to pay in full by July 15. The rental fees already paid by those renters who will become members, will transfer to their membership dues.

Mark noted that we normally have around 190 renters, but only 170 this year. A shareholder asked how this has happened given that there is a long waiting list to join the club as a renter. Mark replied that the new registration system was not operative soon enough to reach out to prospective renters. Cynthia (Registrar) added that there are often substantial problems in reaching people on the waiting list, and even when we reach them they are indecisive and fail to get back to us. The board decided to defer discussion on boosting the fees for people to get on the waiting list, and possibly an additional fee to remain on the list.

Mark said that for the August/September rentals, we are likely to exceed the \$10,000 budgeted by \$2000-\$3000.

Mark reported the account balances as:

\$230,654 in cash;

\$129,665 in annuities;

\$291 in Paypal.

Swim Team "Senior Night"

Chris briefed the board on the Swim Team's request that the annual progressive dinner, for those aged 13 and over, be allowed to finish the evening at the club for a movie on July 21. This is an evening when the swim team members dress up and they are unlikely to use the pool, but might do so. On a motion from Mark, seconded by Shari, the board approved this proposal.

Tennis Court Fence Repair

Matt reported that Arlington Fence plans to carry out the repair in August. When asked about the conduit now on the top of the fence, Matt said this would be connected along the bottom. Shawn questioned whether this would conform to code restrictions. Several contractors have indicated to us that electric lines need to be below the ground. Matt will ask Alex Shek to check on this.

Lifeguard Mid-Season Appraisal

Shari praised the overall performance of the lifeguard staff, but noted they need to be more effective on checking for rubber/plastic pants on infants. They could also be more assertive on desk duty. Still, the pool water quality has been very good consistently, and the bathrooms are being kept clean. The lifeguards were particularly good on July 4. Dan noted that Titan's owner had promised that two lifeguards would be on duty at all times, to avoid a repeat of the near drowning incident last summer. He said he has seen a number of times when only one guard is in the chair, despite the diving area being used by swimmers. The board noticed that this was true at that very moment, although the pool contained many swimmers. Shari said she would raise this with the Titan pool coordinator who oversees the lifeguards, and would also press to have one lifeguard on duty near the pool steps who could also walk the deck, as the lifeguard instructor had recommended.

July 4 Party Assessment

Shari reported the annual July 4 party had gone well, although the hamburger and hot dog buns had run out, and many dirty dishes had been left in the kitchen sink – which she ended up cleaning. One shareholder asked if in the future on July 4, adult lap swim could be offered at 10 a.m. The board agreed to consider this.

CORE's August Day Camp

The board noted that this is actually not a new proposal, despite the wording of the recent notice. The board approved this concept in June 2016, and at least one week-long camp was held in that year as well as in 2017. The board approval in 2016 had several conditions, including that the size of the camps would be capped at 20, and that non-members would not exceed 2-4. Nevertheless, one shareholder, Dorothy Lange, expressed strong concern about the arrangement. She asked why the club has agreed to allow a private entity to run a business on club property. She commented that there are many questions about this endeavor, not least whether there would be enough adults to supervise the camp goers. She argued that all shareholders – and not just the board – should have a say about this commercial arrangement. The ensuing discussion raised the question on whether CORE needs to obtain a day-care license, and whether CORE must ensure that CPR-trained staff are on hand, and whether his liability insurance is adequate, and what liability risks will be assumed by PHRA.

One board member urged that the issue of a private business on club property be included in the annual meeting this year.

A shareholder in attendance, Sebastian Pawlowski, who lives near the club on Kennedy Street complained at length about the increased traffic on that street and inconsiderate club users who park in ways that block his driveway. He noted that he routinely has to deal with trash around his residence, and that his car has been sideswiped and on one occasion his car tires were slashed. Matt suggested that the board consider measures to alleviate such issues faced by the club's immediate neighbors.

Combinations

The board decided to change all the combinations on the club premises on the last weekend of September.

Girl Scouts Project

On a motion from Dan, seconded by Erik, the board voted unanimously to approve the proposal by Girl Scout Troop 4724 "to adopt a small piece of land at Poplar Heights so we can create a safe and sustainable environment for animals." The troop had given a presentation about this project to the board at the June 5 meeting.

Drinking Water Fountain

The board decided to wait until next year to purchase a new drinking water fountain, hoping to limp through the rest of this season with the current fountain, which has already been repaired. Barb said the club should also check into the option of getting a water cooler.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

(Notetaker: Dan O'Grady, Secretary)

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